

Communication flow for a successful print job

Fig. 2

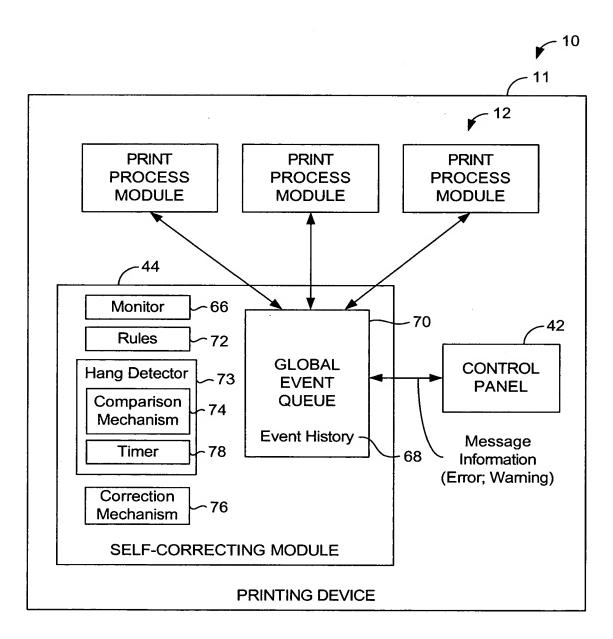


Fig. 3

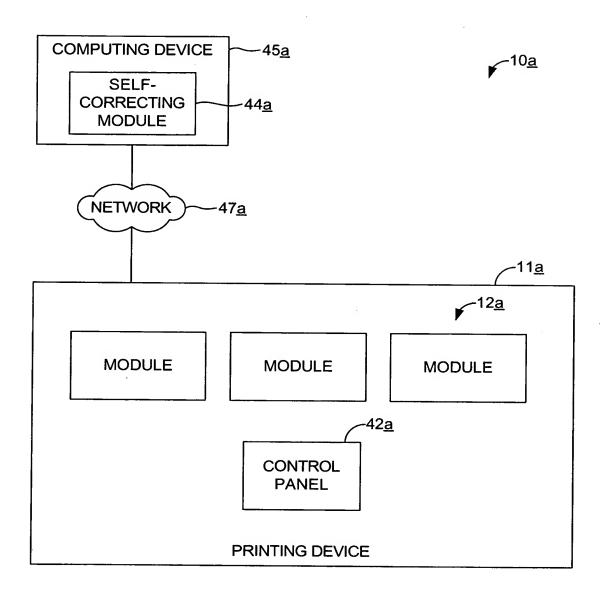


Fig. 4

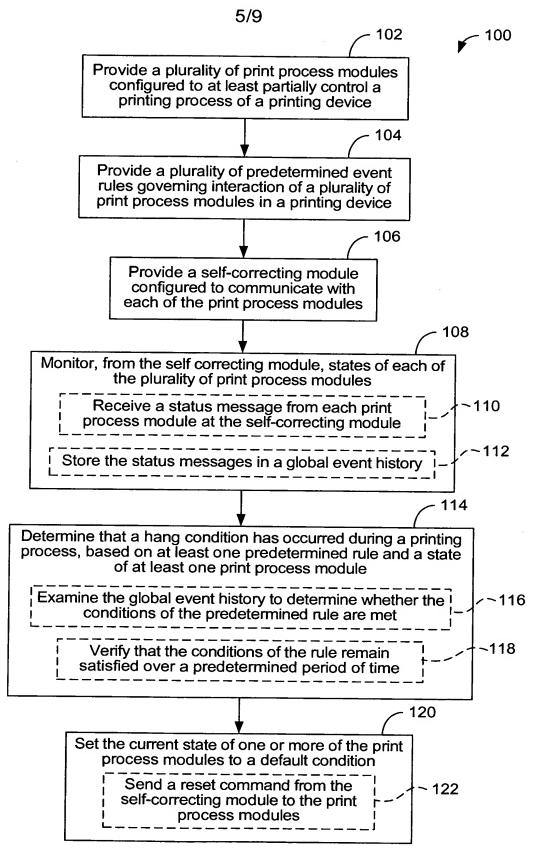


Fig. 5

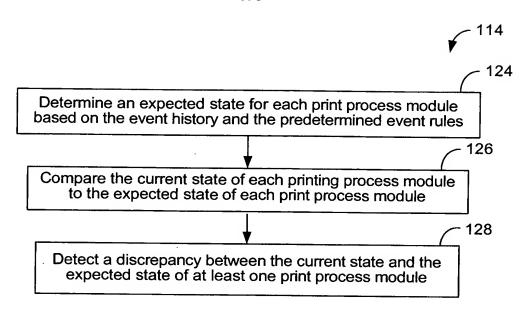
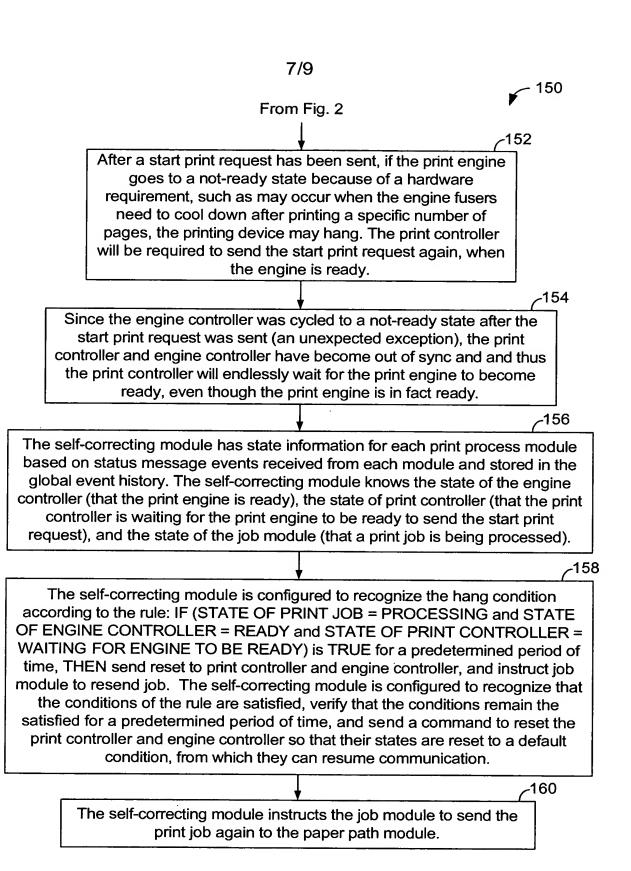


Fig. 6



Communication flow for a scenario where the paper path module is hung becaus print engine goes to a not-ready state after a start print has been issued



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During printing of the print job, the user presses a job cancel key on the control panel to cancel the job. A job cancel request is sent from the job module to the paper path module, in order to cancel the pages with the print engine. The print controller in the paper path sends the cancel request to the engine controller, which in turn sends a cancel request to the print engine.

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As shown at 166, the print engine has a requirement that the cancel request be sent to the print engine by the engine controller, when the conditions are acceptable in the print engine. However, a race condition may develop if the engine controller simultaneously sends a start print request and a cancel request. Due to the race condition, the cancel request may fail with the print engine, because the print engine has changed its status. This causes the engine controller not to send any cancel reply to the print controller, despite the fact that the print controller is waiting for a such a reply, thereby resulting in a hang condition.

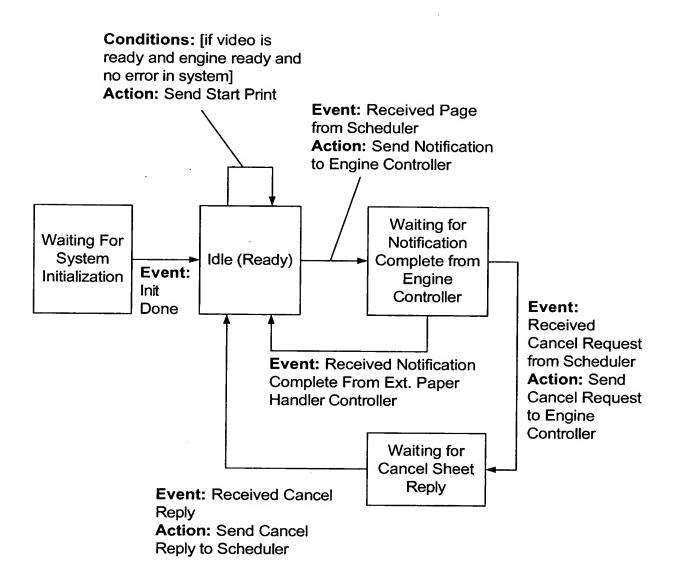
-168

The self-correcting module has state information for each print process module based on the communication flow in the printing device, since each print process module sends status messages (typically events) that are stored in the global event history in the self correcting module. The self-correcting module knows the state of the engine controller (that it received a cancel request), the state of the print controller (that it is waiting for a cancel reply), and the state of the job module (that the current job is being cancelled).

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The self-correcting module not only knows the state of each print process module, but also the event rules according to which the print process modules interact. According to one of these rules, IF (STATE OF PRINT JOB = CANCELING, and STATE OF ENGINE CONTROLLER = RECEIVED CANCELLATION REQUEST, and STATE OF PRINT CONTROLLER = WAITING FOR CANCEL REPLY) is TRUE for a predetermined period of time, THEN send the self correcting module sends a reset command to print controller and to the engine controller, and instructs the job module to resend the print job.

Communication flow for a scenario where the printing device is hung because of a race condition in the paper path modul during a job cancel request



Print Controller States Relating to Page Notification and Cancellation

Fig. 9